Merrion Cricket Club

Anglesea Road
Ballsbridge
Dublin 4

Job Description and Person Specification

Job Details

Job Title: Youth Development Officer

Reporting to: Chair of Cricket

Contract Type: Full-Time, 3 year-fixed term contract

Salary: Depending on experience

Location: Merrion Cricket Club, Dublin, Ireland and various away grounds across Leinster and Ireland on matchdays

The role of the YDO will focus on the development and delivery of the strategic plan for all aspects of youth cricket in MCC in line with the vision for Merrion to provide a high-quality youth programme for player and coaches. It is envisaged that this appointment would for a three-year period to provide the necessary time and continuity to be successful.

The core objectives for the YDO will be:

- to put in place the structures and to contribute directly to the cricketing development of all youth players [technical, mental and tactical] so that they have the opportunity to develop their skills and interest in the sport, to enjoy their cricket and reach their potential,
- to create a coaching structure, with a particular focus on developing youth coaches, to support the youth development programme in the club, and
- to help create pathways for young cricketers to senior cricket and to representative honours.

Key responsibilities will include:

- Development, ownership and delivery of a comprehensive, structured coaching plan/framework for youth cricket,
- Management and delivery of a coaching academy or equivalent coaching programme
- Provide coaching input to various kids cricket camps e.g., Easter and Summer camps
- Liaison and co-operation with Cricket Leinster and Cricket Ireland to maximise supports and ensure recognition and development of talented youth
- Stretching and developing elite players to succeed in adult and representative cricket and supporting (high performance) programmes to deliver same
- Assisting with the Integration of youth into senior teams
- Growing the player pool through targeted schools and club programmes
- Development and mentoring of a coaching panel to grow internal coaching talent from within
- Planning the activities for the entire year including pre and post season months
- Working closely with members of the Youth Committee and Youth Managers panel
- Commitment to continued Professional Development to ensure best practice
- Attracting and managing technical/specialist coaches who can provide coaching in small groups
- Coaching, or organising coaching, in local schools to create recruitment pathways for the Club

- Working with team managers of youth teams and with the captains and Selection Committees of the Open and Women's Sections to ensure that selection is fair and inclusive and that youth players get a reasonable chance to perform during matches
- To foster a warm and welcoming environment that makes cricket enjoyable and inclusive for all

Specific Outputs

- At the start of each season the YDO will prepare a work programme which will be submitted to and agreed by the Youth Committee
- Meet regularly with the Chair of the Youth Committee to discuss progress against the work programme, and refine reflecting feedback form stakeholders where required
- At the end of each season the YDO will provide a report for the Club which will be made available to the members at the Annual General Meeting

Skills and Requirements

Essential

- ECB Level 2 Coaching Certificate (or international equivalent)
- Experience coaching youth club cricket and player development
- Be currently eligible to live and work in Ireland, or eligible for a relevant working visa
- Valid Garda Vetting, safeguarding, and first aid training (or able to attain before commencing employment)

Desirable

- ECB Level 3 Coaching Certificate or higher (or international equivalent)
- Experience managing a large youth cricket program
- A strong playing background in the sport
- An innate understanding of the landscape of Irish cricket
- Experience working in coach education

Merrion Cricket Club is an equal opportunities employer and will not discriminate against any candidate on any of the 9 grounds of discrimination under the Employment Equality Act. All prospective candidates, including current employees of the club, are invited to apply for this role.

Those wishing to apply for the role should send their CV and a covering letter to secretary@merrioncricketclub.ie before 5pm on 15th of January 2025. Shortlisted candidates will be contacted on the week commencing 20th of January 2025, regarding next steps.